

AP Faculty Senate

May 17, 2023 – 10 a.m. to Noon
Zoom Meeting

Roll

Roll for the meeting was taken and recorded via the Senate's Google Form.

Absent with notice: Susan Short (Nancy Gruber)

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University was held on May 17, 2023.

President Holli Gardner Drewry called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Scott Weimer and seconded by Ed Olson. Motion carried.

Minutes

March minutes to be approved: Motion to approve by Marlena Lester and a second by Terri Pecora. Motion carried.

Old Business

Beyond Boundaries Scholarship update

- \$1620 currently collected
- Could all senators please share the link with one additional person
- Holli continues to work with Advancement to get a notice in the Daily news

A/P Faculty Professional Development Working Group-Susan Short

- The group has been meeting
- There is potential to do a small update to the educational leave, but the current policy requires that the employee receive half pay
- Please complete the survey if you have not yet

Constituent Group Representation and Formation Working Group-Nicole Connors

- A survey is being developed to get input from faculty on the groups and what changes they feel should be made

New Business

Job Architecture Update-Evans Lusuli

- The goal of this project is to attract, retain, and develop the best talent
- We are not seeking to reorganize or change salaries, benefits, duties, work titles, reporting lines, etc
- The website has a breakdown of [the architectures](#) including functions, sub-functions, and disciplines across campus
- Professional groups can be created from these
- [Career tracks](#) have also been created and these will continue to be discussed as we complete the project
- More information will be provided as we complete the project and by the end of this summer there will be communication with the university level stakeholders

Google Workspace Changes-Marc DeBonis and Paige Ghra

- [Presentation Slides](#)
- VT has been using Google Workspace since 2012 for all constituencies
- April 2021: Google announced a fixed priced and limited menu which included paying for storage
- May 2021: VT created a steering committee to evaluate our google use
- November 2021: we extended our service to July 2024 by entering into an agreement with Google
- February 2023: final decision was reached and preparations begin to be reduce the use of google storage
- March 2023 google usage is 7 petabytes and only paying for 1 petabytes
- If we do not significantly reduced our storage by July 2024, Google could reduce our usage to “read only”
- If we continue at this usage we will be required to pay almost \$1,000,000 per year
- Changes to be initiated:
 - VT email and calendar will transition to Microsoft Exchange

- This consolidates communication and calendars (all users on one platform)
 - Additional security
 - Enhanced data loss prevention
 - Clear boundaries between VT email services (Outlook versus Gmail)
 - Supports IT transformation by eliminating redundant
 - July-September 2023 will be implemented for new employees and students
 - October 2023-June 2024: current employees and students will be moved to Outlook only
- Google Drive Changes
 - Students are limited to 5GB
 - Employees will begin at 5GB base quota with departments able to allocate additional 40GB per employee to employees who need it
 - Additional storage can be purchased at \$1400 per TB per year
- Google Shared Drive
 - New shared drives will have to be approved in the future
 - May 10 was the last time that students could create shared drives
- Google Photos is Discontinued for all users
 - All photos must be removed or transferred by July 1,2024
 - VT has services to store photos if necessary
- GAE services will be discontinued
 - No new GAEs will be created effective May 10
 - All existing GAEs will be migrated to Microsoft Pace accounts by July 1, 2024
 - VT will contact any GAE owners to transition accounts from Google to Microsoft
- Alumni Service changes
 - October 2023-June 2024: Email and calendar will be moved to M365 and they will receive an alumni license with 50GB mailbox
 - Alumni will no longer have access to google and will need to remove/transfer all files
- Retiree service changes
 - Currently lose access to M365 but keep Google

- Moving forward this will reverse and they will keep M365 and no longer keep Google accounts
- Departments can get started by using the CAT app to determine their use and determine planning for transition of shared drives
- Coming soon: shared drive planning tool and google drive management tool
- Employees can get started by viewing your usage and start moving necessary files
 - Use links in presentation slides (slide 21)
 - Evaluate their GAEs and shared drives to determine next steps for those items
- See presentation slides for Google to Microsoft service comparison and implementation timeline
- Questions:
 - With the migration what will happen with email attachments? They will come with the emails
 - What if the attachment is a google doc? There will be an option to convert/export to the office doc when it gets converted via Google takeout
 - Question: When moving email group folders from google to exchange will the folder system in google transfer to exchange? Marc would hope so and will check with our vendor to determine the answer; otherwise he fears that it would just “dump” into a general folder in Exchange and that would not be the best solution
 - Will there be some best practices shared to prepare for the transitions? Yes. The proposed vendor to migrate has been very open to provide information and has done this for other universities
 - What was the logic to have new employees forced to transition before current employees? This is making it difficult to communicate with new employees. The line had to be drawn in the sand somewhere and there will be disconnect, but there are ways to connect the two platforms so current employees will need to take those steps to communicate with new employees
 - VT chose to keep some portions of google? What was the reason behind that versus going 100% to M365? There were several different scenarios, but the overall thought was that complete removal of google was too extreme and gmail was one of the easiest pieces to sever.
 - Is there discussion about this being step one of multiple steps to completely removing google? None of those conversations are happening at this time

- Alumni accounts will no longer have the ability to log in to third party services using their VT gmail account
- Will the transition of alumni accounts remove their access to two factor authentication? No
- Will there be a transfer tool to assist migrating files from google to M365? Not currently; but there is a service provided by Google called “take out”
- Will students get A1 licenses for Microsoft? They currently do not have scheduling options? They will get A5 student use benefit, but there are some differences between faculty and student A5 license
- What is VT's policy re: employees who will not give Outlook/Calendar admin access to their personal phones? Will VT IT provide funds to purchase VT phones for employees? This access significantly slows down a phone and causes issues in rural areas
 - There is no plan to do this at this time, but Marc will look into the slow down issue more
- I tried to share a google folder with a new google account. Then to change ownership of the google folder to the new account and it would not let me. Why can't we use this easier method of transfer than using Google Takeout? You cannot transfer ownership outside of VT for your own drives and that has to do with permissions for a business account and this does not actually remove the files from your drive for storage calculation purposes
- What happens in the future when M365 demands more money after the switch? We know that this is likely in the future, but Microsoft has given us more control and better processes from the beginning
- Submit [additional questions](#) on the Google Workspace Change

CAPFA Updates-Janice Austin

- One additional grievance has been submitted and is being addressed

Senate Committee Updates

- Communications Committee-Brandy Morse
 - The newsletter was recently sent out and no new updates for May
- Elections & Nominations-Terri Pecora

- Please review the following information on 2023-2034 AP faculty senate assignments:

- [AP Faculty Senators](#)
- [AP Faculty Senate Committee Assignments](#)
- [AP Faculty Senate University Committee Assignments](#)

- Policies and Issues-Nicole Connors
 - No new updates

Other Updates from Committees and Commissions

- None to date

Other Topics or Business

- None to date

Announcements

- Consider submitting stories to add to the A/P Faculty newsletter-email Brandy Morse
- [A/P Faculty Senate Governance Calendar](#)
- Governance Survey coming in August
- Make sure to join Employee Appreciation Day on May 17

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am

Next Meeting June 21, 2023:

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Jones
Secretary/Treasurer